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*Chicago Tribune 2/1/84*

# State seeks option to burning cyanide

By Charles Mount  
and Patrick Reardon

ILLINOIS OFFICIALS expect to present an alternative plan by Feb. 24 for the disposal of cyanide-coated film chips that were illegally stored in the state and thus avoid a controversial test burning of the chips in Naperville, Gov. James Thompson's top aide said Tuesday.

Cook County Circuit Court Judge Albert Green warned Tuesday that he would order the test burning to take place unless state or federal authorities come up with an alternative plan by that date.

The chips have been posing a problem for state and federal authorities since May, when 14.5 million pounds of them were found stored illegally at several sites in Cook County and in Lee County, near Dixon.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has recommended that a small quantity of the film chips be test burned at a private facility in

Naperville to see if that is an appropriate way of disposing of all the chips.

Jim Reilly, Thompson's chief of staff, said officials of the federal EPA's research office in Cincinnati have agreed to conduct the test burn at a federal facility in Arkansas if a permit can be obtained in time.

But federal EPA officials here estimated that it might take as long as three months to obtain the Arkansas permit.

If the test cannot be conducted in Arkansas, Reilly said, Thompson will ask the General Assembly next Tuesday to appropriate \$3.5 million to \$4 million to ship the film chips out of state by truck to a hazardous-waste landfill.

AT TUESDAY'S hearing, Green ordered increased security at a site in Summit where several million pounds of the chips are being stored in 37 trailers 60 feet from Summit Park, a 60-acre recreational facility at 5800 Archer Dr. The park is used by about 1,000 people a week.